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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.		
10/647,457	08/26/2003	Toshio Yokoyama	2003_1207A	3237		
513 75	590 06/20/2006	EXAMINER				
WENDEROT	H, LIND & PONACK, I	ABRAMOWITZ, HOWARD E				
SUITE 800	1 14. 44.	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER			
WASHINGTON, DC 20006-1021			1762			
				DATE MAILED: 06/20/2006		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Ā	pplication No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Action Summary			10/647,457	YOKOYAMA ET	YOKOYAMA ET AL.			
		E	xaminer	Art Unit				
			loward E. Abramowitz	1762				
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this commun or Reply	ication appea	rs on the cover sheet wit	h the correspondence a	ddress			
WHIC - Exte after - If NC - Failu Any	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR CHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MINISTRANCE OF	AILING DAT of 37 CFR 1.136(a nunication. atutory period will a will, by statute, can	E OF THIS COMMUNIC  1). In no event, however, may a re  1) in poly and will expire SIX (6) MONT  1) use the application to become AB/	ATION. ply be timely filed  THS from the mailing date of this ANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).				
Status								
1)	Responsive to communication(s) file	d on <u>26 Aug</u> t	<u>ust 2003</u> .					
2a)[	This action is <b>FINAL</b> .	2b)⊠ This ac	ction is non-final.					
3)	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is							
	closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.							
Disposit	on of Claims							
4)⊠	Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the a	application.						
	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.							
5)	5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.							
6)	c) Claim(s) is/are rejected.							
• —	Claim(s) is/are objected to.							
8)⊠	Claim(s) <u>1-33</u> are subject to restriction	on and/or ele	ction requirement.					
Applicat	on Papers							
9)[	The specification is objected to by the	e Examiner.						
10)	10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.							
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).								
	Replacement drawing sheet(s) including	the correction	is required if the drawing(	s) is objected to. See 37 (	CFR 1.121(d).			
11)	The oath or declaration is objected to	by the Exan	niner. Note the attached	Office Action or form F	'TO-152.			
Priority (	ınder 35 U.S.C. § 119							
<ul> <li>12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).</li> <li>a) All b) Some * c) None of:</li> <li>1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.</li> <li>2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No</li> <li>3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</li> <li>* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.</li> </ul>								
Attachmen	t(s) ce of References Cited (PTO-892)		4) ☐ Interview S	ummary (PTO-413)				
2) D Notic	e of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (F		Paper No(s	)/Mail Date				
	mation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or Properties of the Prop	PTO/SB/08)	5) Notice of In	formal Patent Application (P <sup>-</sup> —·	ГО-152)			

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## **DETAILED ACTION**

## Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- Claims 1-18, 22-33, drawn to an apparatus for electroless plating, classified in class 118, subclass 411+.
- II. Claims 19-21, drawn to a method of electroless plating, classified in class427, subclass 443.1.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions II and I are related as process and apparatus for its practice. The inventions are distinct if it can be shown that either: (1) the process as claimed can be practiced by another and materially different apparatus or by hand, or (2) the apparatus as claimed can be used to practice another and materially different process. (MPEP § 806.05(e)). In this case the apparatus could be used to perform a materially different process such as introducing a single solution from the multiple different mixing tanks.

Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art in view of their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the

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requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Howard E. Abramowitz whose telephone number is 571-272-8557. The examiner can normally be reached on monday-friday 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy H. Meeks can be reached on 571-272-1423. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

HEA

TIMOTHY MEEKS
ERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER